

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 18**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Dickinson**

February 10, 2011

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 18—Relative to Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 18, as introduced, Dickinson. Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week.

This measure would declare the week of March 7, 2011, through March 11, 2011, as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The week of March 7, 2011, through March 11,  
2 2011, has been declared Multiple Sclerosis Week in recognition  
3 of the importance of finding the cause and cure for multiple  
4 sclerosis and to express appreciation to the National Multiple  
5 Sclerosis Society and its California chapters; and  
6 WHEREAS, Multiple sclerosis is a neurological disease of the  
7 central nervous system that affects an estimated 400,000 Americans  
8 across the country, and nearly 200 new cases are diagnosed each  
9 week nationwide; and  
10 WHEREAS, The California chapters of the National Multiple  
11 Sclerosis Society report that more than 40,000 people in California  
12 are affected by this devastating disease. Throughout the years, the  
13 California chapters have been committed to heightening public  
14 knowledge and insight and are currently planning several major

1 statewide fundraisers and educational programs to raise awareness  
2 about the effects of multiple sclerosis; and

3 WHEREAS, Twice as many women as men have multiple  
4 sclerosis and most are diagnosed between the ages of 20 and 50,  
5 and while studies indicate genetic factors make certain individuals  
6 more susceptible than others, there is no evidence that multiple  
7 sclerosis is directly inherited; and

8 WHEREAS, The National Multiple Sclerosis Foundation,  
9 founded in 1946, funds more research, offers more services for  
10 people with multiple sclerosis, and provides more professional  
11 education programs than any other multiple sclerosis organization  
12 in the world. Through its home office in New York and its 50-state  
13 network of chapters, the society services more than one million  
14 people annually; and

15 WHEREAS, The society is the largest private supporter of  
16 multiple sclerosis research in the world, and for more than 55 years  
17 it has funded innovative research and advocated for government  
18 support of important scientific inquiries; now, therefore, be it

19 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
20 *thereof concurring*, That March 7, 2011, through March 11, 2011,  
21 is Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week and that the residents of  
22 the State of California should be encouraged to join together in  
23 raising awareness and heightening public knowledge of this  
24 debilitating disease; and be it further

25 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
26 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.